

News Release

Release No. 02-07 Contact: Charles Camillo

For Release: IMMEDIATE

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Corps of Engineers Flood Watch Update

St. Louis, Missouri, 14 May 2002 -- As of 6:00 am today, only one levee within the St. Louis District has been overtopped: the non-Federal levee at Vandalia, IL, on the Kaskaskia River, which overtopped last Tuesday. Based on current crest forecasts from the National Weather Service, the Corps does not anticipate any additional levees being overtopped, although the crest projections are approaching the design limitations on a handful of non-Federal levees. Situations may change with additional rainfall, therefore, the Corps of Engineers will continue to monitor river levels closely.

The 6:00 am National Weather Service (NWS) revised river stage and crest forecasts for the major river systems in the region are listed below. Prominent changes from yesterday's forecast: The NWS has reduced the expected crest on the St. Louis gage by 1 foot from 39.0 feet to 38.0 feet, but has increased the expected crest on the Cape Girardeau gage from 46.0 feet to 47.0 feet.

Upper Mississippi River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Clarksville, MO | 25 feet | 30.6 feet | 31.0 feet | 5/14 pm |
| Winfield, MO | 26 feet | 31.4 feet | 32.0 feet | 5/15 am |
| Grafton, IL | 18 feet | 26.5 feet | 27.5 feet | 5/15 pm |
| Alton, IL | 21 feet | 30.2 feet | 32.0 feet | 5/15 pm |

Middle Mississippi River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| St. Louis, MO | 30 feet | 35.5 feet | 38.0 feet | 5/16 pm |
| Chester, IL | 27 feet | 38.2 feet | 40.5 feet | 5/16 pm |
| Cape Girardeau, MO | 32 feet | 43.6 feet | 47.0 feet | 5/19 am |

Illinois River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Hardin, IL | 25 feet | 33.8 feet | 36.5 feet | 5/17 am |
| | | | | |

Missouri River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Hermann, MO | 21 feet | 29.5 feet | crested | crested |
| St. Charles, MO | 25 feet | 31.3 feet | 31.6 feet | 5/15 am |

Meramec River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Eureka, MO | 18 feet | 16.1 feet | 25.2 feet | 5/16 am |
| Valley Park, MO | 16 feet | 18.5 feet | 22.8 feet | 5/16 pm |
| Arnold, MO | 24 feet | 33.7 feet | 37.1 feet | 5/16 pm |

Kaskaskia River

| River Gage | Flood Stage | Current Stage | Crest Forecast | Crest Date |
|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
| Vandalia | 18 feet | 25.6 feet | crested | crested |